

BLUAC Steering Committee February 23, 2006 Minutes

In attendance: Janet Loranger, John Rigetti, Craig Wagner, Chuck Gough, David Coverdell, Edd Blackler, John Bourquin, Sally Janover, Elna Darrow, Terry Custer, James T Hunter, Paul J Rana, Gary Ridderhoff, George Darrow, Don Loranger, Leslie Budewitz, Pat Wagner, Shelley Gonzales, Tom Lewis, Al Johnson

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Loranger at 12:06.

Minutes of the February 09, 2006 meeting were presented for approval. Pat Wagner acting secretary brought up an email from Clarice Ryan. It was pointed out that a mistake had been made with regard to the librarian requesting the map be taken down and this was corrected. The other statements that Clarice made with regard to the minutes were discussed, not acted upon and the minutes were approved with the one correction.

Note: The minutes from the February 16, 2006 were not approved and need to be done at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Shelley reported we have about 2005.00 in the treasury with 1500.00 earmarked for Ken Weaver. John Bourquin reported this last meeting on February 16, 2006 held in conjunction with Lakeside would be in the \$200.00 range. John also mentioned that if we went ahead with a resort tax with an elected Board that his fee would be \$2000.00 on a contingency basis. We would get all the paper work necessary from Ken Weaver but we would get to do all the leg work. Ken will be sending a summary and more information about the resort tax.

Committee Reports

Planning Sub-committees

Shelley Gonzales gave her report on her committees:

Land Use: Good meeting at the gym, small group (cold weather) but there were new faces. Were knowledgeable about the issues and spent considerable time going over the maps. This was the first of three meetings with 2 more in March.

Downtown and Commercial: They are almost through. I have a rough draft outline from them.

Paul Rana's Group on Public Utilities have done a tremendous job and coming along nicely.

Housing Committee: Has put together data for their group and coming along beautifully as well.

My Group with Sally will be meeting next week

Gary Ridderhoff's group has their assignments and will holding another meeting soon. Natural Resources: Elna Darrow has just come back from a trip and predicted they will have half a report by next week.

Don mentioned using just the survey as a guideline for the Neighborhood plan has problems. There is a lot of conflict (inconsistencies). People want open space and rural atmosphere but want 5 acre lots.

Sally Janover attended a workshop meeting with Brett Thuma that was held under the umbrella of Citizens for a Better Flathead. It was noted that under the new growth plan the county can restrict the number of neighborhood plans to one or two every 5 years. So a steering committee was formed to address this problem. A discussion then followed that stated Bigfork already has a zoning district and a neighborhood plan. Our focus right now should be on our specific community but maybe we can hear the ideas from this group and share information.

Government Committee: John Bourquin stated this committee may be coming to an end. Don has a couple of other people he would like us to meet and which we will do. Still exploring resort tax. John will miss next 2 meetings and Leslie will miss the next one. John has done a great job with this committee.

Community and Interaction Committee:

Initial proposal was to meet with the BLUAC somewhere to talk about other things. We did invite them to come to a BSC meeting. There are some hard feelings with regard to violations of bylaws. Maybe this will right itself in May with elections. Don had two reasons, wanted to heal wounds in the community. This committee will prevail but Shelley's committees are going to have a hard time. We didn't abandon the high road at the February 16th meeting. We were asked about holding informational meetings about alternative plans to use our lands within the zoning. We are trying to get graph to show the proposals that BLUAC has approved and then show the final outcome. We want to get a forum for BLUAC candidates to come and speak.

George Darrow then brought to our attention that Somers appears to be having houses that are considered affordable housing and they could become a bedroom community to upscale Bigfork and it might be worthwhile to work in cooperation with them which is what the Neighborhood Steering committee is looking at that aspect. Shelley Gonzales felt that the housing committee might like to hear from them.

Discussion followed about ads and payment for ads not delivered. At no cost the Daily Interlake will put in their daily log.

A long discussion was held about meetings, times, every week,

Pat Wagner reported that the church will not be available every third Thursday. The church will be having a retired Senior Citizens luncheon... There is a library at the end of the hall that might work, if the crowd is not too much larger than what is here today. Maybe we should try to have an evening meeting one day a month to give those people who can't come to an afternoon meeting an opportunity to meet and talk with us was a suggestion also. Pat Wagner was conscripted to find a Third Thursday evening meeting place.

Leslie then asked for more ideas on how to get more information a resort tax, not pros and cons, to please contact her or John on the government committee. What would you like to spend your resort tax on since an unincorporated city cannot use it on property taxes?

New people were in attendance so we introduced our selves. John Righetti, said he was just informed that there was zone change going on near his property and what can he do to keep the hill the way it is now. They have sent letters to the commissioners. Al Johnson said come to him and he will put it on the map and book that will go to the commissioners. This also involves fire gates.

Elections will be held for BLUAC in May. So far only Shelley has applied. We need candidates.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20

Pat Wagner, Acting secretary